



Hyderabad INFOODS Declaration

We, the over 300 delegates of 37 countries at the 11th International Food Data Conference held at the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, India, from 3-5 November 2015 with its related meetings, **Note** that worldwide the design and implementation of programmes and policies aiming to improve nutrition depend on, or would benefit from, the availability of good food composition data for the wealth of foods available in the target population;

Recognize that biodiverse foods¹ are often undervalued and underutilized due to the lack of knowledge on their nutritional benefit, resulting in a decline in their production and consumption, which might contribute to the global burden of malnutrition and loss of biodiversity;

Acknowledge that the Sustainable Development Goals, including those for hunger, nutrition and health could be achieved more efficiently through reforming agriculture and food systems to rely more on the vast range of foods and nutrients provided through biodiversity and other foods;

Realize that there are not enough data in publicly available repositories on foods to efficiently inform the climate-smart development of agricultural policies and programmes impacting on nutrition and public health;

Understand that significant differences exist in nutrient and bioactive compound contents between and within species which can make the difference between nutrient adequacy and inadequacy, especially in terms of micronutrients;

Acknowledge that governments have engaged to improve nutrition and health sustainably through several international commitments;

Recommend that governments, the private sector and donors invest in the generation, compilation and dissemination of high-quality food composition data of all relevant nutrients and non-nutrients, including for biodiverse and processed foods;

Urge multi-sectorial stakeholders to use food composition data in decision making to achieve public health and nutrition goals in line with international commitments;

Call upon governments, researchers and organizations to share their compositional data through available open-access platforms, including FAO/INFOODS, and national and regional food composition tables and databases;

Request that national capacity be strengthened in all important aspects of food composition, i.e., the generation, compilation and appropriate use of these data, including the institutionalization of food composition into higher education and

Invite all relevant organizations to improve collaboration with each other, especially across disciplines, to cross-fertilize innovative thinking, and to define common goals and achieve them together. This should include the use of e.g. FAO/INFOODS guidelines and tools and the close collaboration with INFOODS and their regional data centres to achieve the capacity and data quality needed. Food composition tables must be part of country's regional and international priorities to be able to meet the demand for delivering cost-effective and well-targeted programmes, policies and frameworks which lead to the implementation of truly nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food-based approaches to improving nutrition, and consequently leading to a healthier population.

¹Biodiverse foods are those below species level, i.e. varieties, cultivars or breeds, or are wild, underutilized or neglected foods. Inter species diversity includes a diverse diet.